

Press Release

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Department of Community Services



PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe Harford"

EDUCATION

"Preparing Now, Building for the Future"

EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining Harford's Prosperity"

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our Environment"

QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is Important to Harford County Citizens"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 22, 2013

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HUD Increases Funding to Help Eradicate Homeless in Harford County

(Bel Air, MD) - - Harford County was recently awarded nearly \$867,000 in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Program. This is approximately a 6% increase from last year's funding and will account for the increased fair market rents.

"We are very pleased with HUD's decision to increase CoC funding in Harford County, allowing us to give more to the nonprofits who serve our most vulnerable citizens," stated Harford County Executive David Craig. "This funding is a critical part of our strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness in Harford County."

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) recently published a statewide Point in Time analysis, which compared the recent results from each CoC's Homeless Point in Time Count, which took place in January 2013. The data shows Harford County has 2% of the homeless population in the state and the county's homeless population is declining. In 2011, Harford County counted 243 homeless individuals, compared to 166 in 2013, a decrease of 77 individuals.

"During this challenging budget climate, we must make certain that we don't balance our books on the backs of our most vulnerable citizens," stated U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan. "When we make even modest investments in these programs, we see a measurable decline in homelessness."

The Harford County Department of Community Services' division of Community Development administers Harford County's Continuum of Care, competitively awarding this funding to local nonprofits to meet the needs of homeless clients. The grants fund a wide variety of programs from street outreach and assessment to transitional and permanent housing for homeless persons and families.

Please visit <http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/services/community/doc/2166.pdf> to view the Maryland Point in Time Analysis by Continuum of Care.

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"Preserving Harford's past; promoting Harford's future"

